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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended):

An automatic outrigger securing assembly, for use on a fishing boat having structural support members and an outrigger , said outrigger securing assembly comprising:

coupling means for releasably securing said outrigger in a fixed position about said boat;

collar means for interfacing with said coupling means;

said coupling means receiving and locking said collar means;

said coupling means further including means for releasing said collar means ~~collar~~means;

whereby, when said outrigger is in a laydown or collapsed configuration, in close proximity to said boat, said securing assembly automatically receives and safely retains said outrigger in a desired position.

Claim 2. (Original)

The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said coupling means includes a support arm and a head mounted about one end of said arm;

said head further including upper and lower complementary jaws, at least one of said jaws being moveable, and means for biasing said jaws in a closed position.

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Claim 3. (Original):

The apparatus of claim 2, wherein at least one of said jaws includes recessed channel means for retaining said collar means.

Claim 4. (Original):

The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said collar means includes means for attachment to an outrigger, and interlocking means for insertion into said coupling means.

Claim 5. (Original):

The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said means for attachment comprises a cylindrical sleeve, and said interlocking means comprises a pair of generally parallel flanges, said flanges protruding from said sleeve and integrally associated therewith, said interlocking means further including a pin interposed said flanges, and mounted thereto.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended):

An automatic outrigger securing assembly, for use on a fishing boat having structural support members and an outrigger, said outrigger securing assembly comprising:
a coupler releasably securing said outrigger in a fixed position
about said boat, said coupler including a support arm having two ends, one said end mounted on a support member of said boat, the opposite end having a head mounted thereon;

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said head including upper and lower complementary jaws, at least one of said jaws being moveable, and means for biasing said jaws in a closed position;

a collar for interfacing with said coupler, said collar comprises a cylindrical sleeve for attachment to said outrigger;

an interlocking pin assembly comprising a pair of generally parallel flanges, said flanges protruding from said sleeve and integrally associated therewith;

a pin interposed said flanges, and secured thereto, said jaws receiving and locking said pin;

said head further including means for releasing said pin;

whereby, when said outrigger is in a laydown or collapsed configuration, in close proximity to said boat, said securing assembly automatically receives, releasably locks, and safely retains said outrigger until such time that release is desired.